



Indiana Department of Revenue

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2003

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Last Minute Tax Filing Tips from the Indiana Department of Revenue

As the annual April 15 tax-filing deadline rolls around this year, the Indiana Department of Revenue would like to offer Indiana taxpayers some tax tips on saving money and some helpful hints on speeding up the processing of their state tax returns and refunds.

DON'T WAIT

The department has had 17.6 million visits to its Web site so far this year. And, the department always leads other state agencies in numbers of hits in the month of April. So, don't wait until the last minute to print your tax forms or to file your state income taxes!

ELECTRONIC FILING

"The fastest, easiest and most accurate way to file your tax return is to use the state's free I-File system," says Commissioner Kenneth L. Miller. "I-File can get your refund to you in days, instead of the weeks that taxpayers filing traditional paper returns can expect to wait this late in the season. If you still want to file a paper return, at least use the I-File system to print out your return with a bar-code, which speeds up the processing considerably."

NEW THIS YEAR

* Don't forget to answer the new question just above the signature section, "Are you filing a Federal return?" on the IT-40 and IT-40PNR tax returns.

* Children's Social Security Numbers are required for the first time on Schedule IN-EIC for the Indiana Earned Income Credit.

* **eCheck** allows Indiana taxpayers to pay the amount due on current year Individual Income Tax returns and outstanding liabilities with an electronic check. Check it out at www.in.gov/dor/epay/.

TAX TIPS TO SAVE MONEY

* The age 65 ceiling has been eliminated from the Disability Deduction.

* Even if you do not file a federal or state income tax return, you may be eligible for a refund if you are age 65 or older and your taxable income is under \$10,000. Complete Form SC-40, Unified Tax Credit for the Elderly (available at the department's Web site, www.IN.gov), to see if you qualify. Deadline for filing Form SC-40 is **June 30, 2003**.

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Indiana Government Center North, Indianapolis, IN 46204

TAX TIPS TO SAVE TIME

* Be sure to attach all of your W-2 forms if you are filing a traditional paper tax return.

TAX-FILING EXTENSIONS POSSIBLE

Extensions of time to file returns are possible for certain segments of the population. However, an extension of time to FILE does not mean an extension of time to PAY! State statute requires that 90% of estimated tax due still be submitted by April 15, 2003.

**** A special Post Office mailbox has been established this year for returns of military personnel serving in combat zones. Returns with "Combat Zone" written across the top of the form will receive an automatic extension of time to file, as long as they are mailed to: Indiana Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 2305, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-2305. Click on "Up to the Minute" for more information at www.in.gov/dor/.***

* Non-military taxpayers who need more time to file their taxes may apply for an automatic extension of time to file Indiana Form IT-40 or Form IT-40PNR by completing Form IT-9, available on the Web at www.in.gov/dor/taxforms/02pdfs/02-it9.pdf, or by clicking on IT-9 under *Other Individual Tax Forms/Schedules* category under Individual Income Current Year Tax Forms.

* Victims of September 20, 2002 storms are encouraged to contact our Taxpayer Advocate's Office if assistance is needed to comply with state deadlines.

CONTACT INFORMATION

* For refund information, call our Automated Taxpayer Information System at (317) 233-4018 from a touch-tone telephone between 8:00 A.M. Monday and 10:00 P.M. Saturday.

* To obtain copies of forms, bulletins or other administrative pronouncements by Internet, visit our Web site, www.IN.gov/dor. By e-mail, write to pfrequest@dor.state.in.us. By FAX, call our TaxFax at (317) 233-2329 from the handset of a FAX machine. By telephone, call our Forms Order Line at (317) 615-2581.

* To speak with a taxpayer assistant regarding individual income taxes, call our Taxpayer Services Division at (317) 232-2240 between 8:15 and 11:15 A.M.; or between 12:30 and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. For corporate tax questions, call (317) 615-2662. The Indianapolis Walk-In Assistance Center is open 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. To obtain Taxpayer Assistance Phone Numbers by specific tax types, go to www.in.gov/dor/assistance/indy.html. For departmental Post Office box numbers, go to www.in.gov/dor/filingdeadlines/pdf/po_boxes.pdf. To obtain a list of the department's District Offices, go to www.in.gov/dor/assistance/district.html.